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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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Every friend of immigration restriction should immediately request their two Senators to insist on the Burnett Immigration bill being voted on at this session of Congress.

PLEDGES LABOR'S AID TO CLOAK STRIKERS

New York, May 27.—In addresses to locked-out garment workers in this city, President Gompers and Secretary Morrison assured these 40,000 trade unionists that the American Federation of Labor would give every aid possible to resist the attempt of the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' association to disrupt the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

"They want an end to your union, and say you will be as well off," declared President Gompers. "When and where did the manufacturers in any industry voluntarily make a reduction in the hours of labor? When did they offer to increase your wages? I have yet to see any of these benefits except when forced by the demands of the workers.

"I think it is unnecessary for me to say that everything within the power of the American Federation of Labor, with whatever power or influence it can bring to bear whatever is possible for me as one of the trade unionists to do, will be given you without stint or thought of any kind."

In reply to the manufacturers' claim that they favor the "open shop" President Gompers said:

"You know what the open shop has meant, and you know what it means. The open shop is nothing but a misapplication of that term, for, as it is understood and expressed by employers and particularly organized employers, it means a 'non-union shop.' It means that the unions are not sufficiently firm in their conviction that organization is the only help of the workers will be long ones with a view to intimidated, and the men who are most earnest and active and determined for organization will be discharged because they believe that organization of the workers is essential.

Secretary Morrison spoke along similar lines, and later, in an interview published in the Evening World, said:

"This lockout has but one end in view—the decimation of the ranks of organized labor. It is a sort of 'we'll starve-you first, then-you'll-be-glad-to-come-back-to-us-individually' policy.

"It is that kind of policy that strengthens the backbone of the labor movement instead of weakening it. One thing is certain, the union will not surrender its identity. It will not be crushed. Organized labor will not allow it to be crushed."

WHICH SOCIALIST IS RIGHT!

Chicago, May 27.—The national headquarters of the Socialist party issues a "Socialist Party Service," J. L. Engdahl, editor, and mails copies of same to various newspapers.

In calling on workers to press their demand for an eight-hour day in the Pittsburg district and elsewhere, Editor Engdahl says: "There were no unemployed in this state [Kansas] no freshly arrived hordes of immigrants from Europe hungry for jobs. He also says: "When war was over, as it soon must be, the hordes of the hopeless will leave these shores of Europe and come to the United States looking for jobs to compete in the labor market."

On March 24 last, Congressman Meyer London, in opposing the Burnett immigration restriction bill in the house of representatives, said:

"The trouble with the average representative of organized labor is that he is incapable of that broader vision which sees the good-will of the future needs of the moment. That is the misfortune of the trade union movement. That lack of intelligence! The politician is afraid to tell them that they are stupid."

DEFEND COMPENSATION LAW.

Columbus, Ohio, May 27.—President Voll and Secretary Lamb of the state federation of labor, together with a large delegation of other trade unionists, will attend a hearing in the state, attended the hearings before the supreme court next week to test the question of whether private liability insurance companies could compete with the state in writing workmen's accident insurance. Attorney General Taggart has ruled to this effect and the state legislature will abide by the decision and has employed counsel to protect the interests of all Ohio toilers. The trade unionists' attorneys claim that if the Taggart ruling is permitted to stand the purpose of the compensation act is defeated.

"PROFIT SHARING" DECLINED.

Everett, Wash., May 27.—Striking shingle weavers in this city declined the offer of the owner to establish a "profit sharing" scheme instead of the old wage scale which was enjoyed by these workers last year. Attached to this "profit sharing" plan was an agreement that the shingle weavers were not to belong to a union.

Last year the mill owners promised to reinstate the old wage scale when the market improved. Now some of them refuse because of the high price of logs. The shingle weavers insist on a living wage and decline to become embroiled in the fight between logger and mill owner.

TO ARBITRATE STRIKE.

Trenton, N. J., May 27.—Striking motormen and conductors employed by the Trenton and Mercer County Traction company have returned to work on the company's promise to submit differences still unsettled to an arbitration board. The employees claim that active trade unionists were dismissed. The company charged these men with dishonesty but refused to give them a chance to clear themselves or discuss the question in any way. This unfair attitude resulted in a complete tie up of the road and the company was forced to recede.

MACHINISTS REDUCE HOURS.

Chattanooga, Tenn., May 27.—Machinists have signed a new wage and hour contract with the Columbian iron works. Wages are increased for every machinist, and the machinists and the company are jubilant over their success in breaking down the long work day system in this city and proving their solidity will result in other victories.

CANNERY BILL VETOED.

Albany, N. Y., May 27.—Governor Whitman has vetoed the Argetsinger bill which was opposed by organized labor on the ground that it lengthened the hours of women employed in canneries.

CARPENTERS RAISE WAGES.

Newport, R. I., May 27.—The Carpenters' union has raised wages 1 cent an hour, making the hourly rate 45 cents.

WASTED R. R. REVENUES BLOCK EIGHT HOUR DAY

Cleveland, May 27.—The railroads of this country claim it is financially impossible to grant the eight-hour demands of their train service employes.

Their publicity department of the four railroad brotherhoods continue to expose financial transactions of the railroad managers which show that if revenues were conserved, instead of being wasted or given away, the eight-hour day could be granted.

The railroad employes show that during the period of 1906-1910 ten western railroads alone issued new stock for $250,584,961 less than its market value. This means that this enormous amount was practically given away in the form of bonuses to stockholders. If this stock was sold in the open market the same amount of cash could be secured by an issue of $171,112,796 less capital stock.

The dividends paid on these fictitious stock issued in 1913 alone amounted to $11,276,495.

During the period of 1906-1910 these same ten railroads gave away as underwriting commissions $9,120,124. The total par value of funded debt issued by them for cash during these years was $885,016,682.

The cash proceeds were only $841,- 215,207; the bonds, however, had been bonds, however, was $850,446,421; and the excess of market value of these securities over their par value was the railroad companies was $9,120,124.

This amount represents an actual loss to the railroads. These transactions also represented an unnecessary increase in the capital stock on the ten railroads of $9,455,952, for the reason that if the bonds had been placed in the market at the then prices obtaining at the time of each issue, the cash actually realized could have been secured by the sale of much in par value bonds.

The employes can see no justice in having to do increased work and put in excessively long hours in order that all the increased revenues should go to the bankers and "insiders."

WANT AN INVESTIGATION.

Milwaukee, May 27.—A number of local manufacturers have petitioned the state industrial commission to begin an investigation of hours of labor throughout the middle west with a view to showing that working hours in Milwaukee are as short as elsewhere. Officers of the Machinists' union have notified the commission that they will forego, for the present, their demand for an eight-hour day if the commission in this investigation covers a wide field and includes the financial and industrial conditions of all the shops, and that the employers be compelled to open their books and, "other evidences necessary to produce all the facts."

The workers' letter says that the intention of permitting the employers to delay, by lengthy investigations, labor's demands "when labor is not in the labor market."

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House Committee Condemns "Stop Watch" System; General Crozier Ignored Decision of Last Congress

Washington, May 27.—The house committee on labor has ordered a favorable report of the anti-"stop watch" bill, introduced by Congressman Tavenner. Medical authorities, workers and others were quoted in opposition to these "speeding up" systems.

Congressman Browne dissented and in a minority report made favorable reference to the defense of the "stop watch" system by General Crozier, chief of ordnance, United States army, who has deliberately ignored a declaration on this subject by the last congress.

In the majority report it is stated that General Crozier "set about nullifying the effect of the 'rider' (anti-stop watch, passed by the congress) in the military appropriation bill, and with the assistance of former Secretary (of War) Garrison and other officials of the department almost succeeded."

It is further stated that: "The majority of your committee feels that the proponents of the bill made so strong a case that we are justified in urging congress to enact legislation to effect the 'stop watch' and bonus and premium systems from government shops.

"The opponents of this legislation have much to say about 'efficiency' and 'scientific shop management,' and they seek to create the impression that 'efficiency' can not be secured unless (a) the workman's every movement is timed by a 'stop-watch,' and (b) that the old system of the day's pay is abolished and bonuses and premiums substituted therefor.

"Your committee believes there is nothing in the evidence submitted at the hearings, or in the experience of mankind, to sustain either of these contentions.

"It is this city we have the Washington navy yard, employing thousands of skilled mechanics. The 'stop watch' is not used there, and the commandant will assure you he has the most efficient body of mechanics ever gathered together inside one fence.'

"The workmen at the Rock Island arsenal have succeeded in defeating General Crozier's attempt to introduce the 'stop watch,' and have demonstrated their 'efficiency' by producing munitions of war for very much less than the government pays contractors for the same articles.

"For instance, General Crozier tells us that a 3-inch gun carriage for which contractors asked the government $3,398.88 was produced in the Rock Island arsenal for $2,192.27, a saving of practically one-third. And this is not an exceptional case. General Crozier is the author of the following tables, showing the difference between contract and arsenal costs, and your committee urges members of the house to carefully examine same.

"It is necessary to still further 'speed up' workmen who have displayed the skill and industry needed to produce these results?

"The premium and bonus systems of payment of employes are designed to supplement the 'stop watch' in stimulating the workers to the extreme limit of their physical endurance. When the human machine can no longer stand the strain one is to be substituted and the old one sent to the industrial scrap heap.

"The opponents of the legislation under discussion object to the truth of this statement, but there is a mountain of evidence to sustain the charge.

"In conclusion your committee would suggest: "The system so persistently urged by General Crozier involves a fundamental, not to say revolutionary, change, (a) in determining what is a reasonable day's work for an employe in the various trades and workshops and (b) in the method of compensating the workers, to wit, the substitution of the 'bonus' or 'premium' system for the age-old 'day's-pay' system.

"The workers affected seem to be almost unanimous in their opposition to the change. They insist it will be to their disadvantage to them and will be without benefit to the government.

"So intense is this feeling that an attempt to install the system in all the government workshops would, in the judgment of your committee, lead to very serious consequences.

"In view of these well-established facts, it seems to your committee to be the height of folly to permit General Crozier to persist in his plan. Apparently, the only way to restrain him is to enact the bill under discussion, and your committee trusts the house will take prompt and favorable action."

CORPORATION BENEVOLENCE

San Francisco, May 27.—"Workers who are intelligent enough to organize and stand upright as men," says the Labor Clarion, "have long since been aware of the crafty attempts of employers to enslave them through paternalism, and have steadfastly refused to accept benevolence in lieu of wages, and it can truthfully be said that there is not a single instance of any consequence that can be pointed to wherein the good intentions of an employer has not been operated at the expense of the workers and with an eye single to the profit of the employer rather than the employe.

"The organized workers have learned to beware of the 'glad hand' and glittering gifts, and have insisted upon decent working conditions and wages in order that they might be in a position to take care of their own pensions and insurance in their own way.

"It is because the American worker is no longer to be fooled by the schemes that employers have struggled desperately to keep the gates open to the ignorant, badly paid workers of countries, and it is this greedy desire that has badly interfered with the up their hypocritical wails against the literacy test as a means of bringing about a more intelligent application to this country. Of course they are too crafty to admit their real objection to the test, but they attempt the test upon the ground that such a law would mean the abandonment of our traditions by way of furnishing an asylum for the oppressed of other lands. By so doing, these unscrupulous greedmongers set up the cry of 'wolf, wolf,' when there was no wolf, that the entire country has now become so familiar with their real designs that no attention is paid to either their boisterous clamor or their spare pleas for the oppressed.

"The American people, and the American labor movement especially, can no longer be deceived by the fake benevolence of employers."

PROFITS OF WESTINGHOUSE CO.

New York, May 27.—Employes of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing company, Pittsburg, who have been attempting to secure an eight-hour day, will be interested in this concern's latest financial report which shows that for the year 1915 its net profits earned exceeded any previous year in the history of the company. Gross earnings were $50,268,000 and the net manufacturing profit, $9,429,958. Of this amount available for dividends, after the inclusion of interest and discounts and the payment of fixed charges, $6,641,605 or $27.68 per share, equivalent to 7 per cent on the preferred stock and 17.8 per cent on the $24,641,600 of common stock.

These profits do not include the substantial amounts always set aside for depreciation of plants. The report states that an additional, or "special depreciation" charge of $1,665,816 was made from month to month on the facilities being used for war orders.

CIGARMAKERS' BENEFITS.

Chicago, May 27.—Statistics issued by the Cigar Makers' International union shows that during the past year sick, death and out-of-work benefits were paid to members of strike benefits. For sick benefits, the sum of $210,417.75 was expended; for death benefits, $378,509.64; strike benefits, $9,947.56. The total paid for all purposes during the year, 1915, is $621,839.07, while the grand total of all benefits, including loans, in 26 years and two months is $2,665,815.66.

Amounts collected by local assessment and expended from the funds of the local unions are not included in the above. Many locals paid out extra out-of-work benefits and do not report the award until it is finally settled. Some of the employers have placed the difference in wages subject to the decision of the appeal court. The unionists have appealed to the government for redress, but as yet have not succeeded in compelling the employers to obey the law.

LABORERS SECURE CONTRACT.

St. Louis, Mo., May 27.—Hod carriers and general laborers have won their strike and signed their first agreement with contractors in this city. The following gains have been secured: Nine-hour day, 35 cents an hour, extra pay for overtime and recognition of the union.

ARMATURE WORKERS WIN.

Boston, May 27.—Armature workers employed by the Frank Sidion company have won their three weeks' strike. The demands of the union for an increase of 10 cents an hour over the present wage of 40 cents, and an eight-hour day, have been granted.

BRANDEIS FAVORED BY SENATE COMMITTEE

Washington, May 27.—By a vote of 10 to 8, last Wednesday, the senate judiciary committee agreed to report favorably to the senate the nomination of Louis D. Brandeis to be associate justice of the United States supreme court.

President Wilson made this nomination last January and it has been opposed by a committee of Boston reactionaries, charge "unethical conduct" on the part of Mr. Brandeis in certain legal proceedings.

The majority of the nomination include William H. Taft, Joseph H. Choate, Elihu Root and other former presidents of the American Bar association.

HATTERS' RELIEF FUND.

Washington, May 27.—Up to and including Wednesday, May 24, A. F. of L. Secretary Frank Morrison has received $15,355.80 for the benefit of the Danbury hatters.

Last week the executive council of the American Federation of Labor issued a circular to all trade unions in which attention is called to the effort of unscrupulous manufacturers to appeal public sentiment in the manner of money that was being raised immediately after January 27, the date set by the A. F. of L. convention for all workers to contribute the wages of an hour's labor for the benefit of the hatters.

"Because these statements created the impression that more than enough money was contributed, the A. F. of L. executive council urges all organizations who have not contributed the pay for an hour's labor to do so on June 15.

All moneys are to be forwarded to Secretary Morrison.

POST OFFICE BUDGET INCLUDES WAGE GAINS

Washington, May 27.—The senate committee on postoffices and post roads has recommended the passage of legislation restoring the salaries of mail collectors reduced from $1,200 to $1,000 by the post office department. This measure has passed the house, despite opposition of post office officials, who insist that it will interfere with their "efficiency" system.

When the postoffice appropriation bill was reported in February, 1915, President Gompers and Secretary Flaherty, of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks, protested to the postmaster general. Failing to obtain justice in this quarter an amendment to the general appropriation bill was secured. The bill also contains a provision for the reclassification of postoffices whose receipts have risen within the past year, but withheld by the postal department. These wage clauses will affect 2,800 clerks.

Other features of the bill are: Ten wage increases from $1,200 to $1,500 annually for post office clerks; 800 wage increases from $720 to $840 for the laborers; the creation of a special assistant to the postmaster at $2,400, and $1,400, which will permit of increases for the clerks; the enlargement of the scope of the weighing and compensation law to include all classified employes in first and second class post offices; the granting of annual leaves for clerks and carriers and the granting of annual vacations to railway mail clerks.

The bill also provides for the establishment of the house legislation restoring salaries of mail collectors and messengers to $1,200 per year, congress sets the stamp of disapproval upon departmental misinterpretation of the law," declared Secretary Flaherty, who represents the interests of the union postal employes in Washington. "The classification law provides that the salaries of letter carriers there is no distinctive grade at $1,000 for collectors. Yet the department endeavored to set at naught this law and create such a grade."

Mr. Flaherty attributes the legislative success of post office employes at this session to the fact that a large and increasing number of them are now in active affiliation with the trade union movement. "Post office clerks, he declared, are demanding the right to conduct an effective campaign for redress of grievances from within the American Federation of Labor, whose affiliates cannot be controlled by departmental officials.

WIN SIX MONTHS' STRIKE.

Philadelphia, May 27.—Dyers and Sercerizers' union, affiliated to the United Textile Workers' union, has won its six months' strike for higher wages. The strike started in November, last year, and included about a score of workers. Later about 25 shops became involved and over 500 workers struck. Wages are increased from 15 cents to 20 cents an hour.

SILVER TRUST IN DISTRESS

Cincinnati, May 27.—The Metal Polishers' Journal publishes the following letter from Secretary-Treasurer Duffy of the International Silver company, Meriden, Conn., to Mrs. G. Pearson, Springfield, Ill., secretary:

"Dear Madam—Referring to yours of the 29th ult. We are in need of hand burnishers that have had experience on the general line of hollow ware such as tea ware, water, tea bodies, cake baskets, sandwich trays, nut bowls, etc., made of German or 18-20 silver, or nickel or metal. We are also looking for unskilled men. Our female help in the burnishing line averages from 12 1-2 cents to 20 cents per hour; unskilled labor, 17 1-2 cents to 25 cents per hour. The girls' minimum of 12 1-2 cents and hour was established by the Canadian government.

"If you were in the States and applied to us for a position we could probably place you."

The above letter is both a acknowledgment of and evidence of the silver workers' strike and is also a bold attempt to evade the federal contract law. The letter was followed by second letter by Stockder will show:

"Referring to yours of the 29th will say that we stated in your letter are satisfactory and we will keep a place open for you. Kindly advise when you will report for duty."

Officers of the Metal Polishers' International union have referred this matter to the immigration department of the United States, and have stated that the silver trust started last October when nearly 6,000 men and women struck for the right to enforce shorter hours and a living wage.

FATALITIES IN INDUSTRY.

Lansing, Mich., May 27.—The workmen's compensation board reports that during the month of April 2,945 workmen suffered accidents in this state. Of this number 1,495 were so severely injured as to be incapacitated for at least one week. Of the number under the compensation period; 1,459 were totally disabled temporarily; 118 were disabled permanently partially, and 27 of these accidents resulted in death. Of the fatalities, nine occurred in mines and the remainder with the operation of steam railroads.

During the month of April of 1915 there were reported 2,853 accidents resulting in temporary total disability, 1,495 were disabled temporarily, 94 permanent partial disability, and 73 fatalities—a total of 2,106 compensable accidents for three months.

For the first quarter of 1916 there were 4,437 accidents resulting in disability, 2,695 were so severely injured as to be incapacitated for at least one week. Of the number under the compensation period; 1,459 were totally disabled temporarily; 118 were disabled permanently partial disable, and 27 of these accidents resulted in death. Of the fatalities, nine occurred in mines and the remainder with the operation of steam railroads.

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STRIKE GUARDS NOT NEEDED.

Tiffin, Ohio, May 27.—Strike guards employed by the Carter Manufacturing company killed one striker and injured two others. The company is under bonds to keep city police for the presence of these thugs, and the charge that the company properly protected brought forth the following statement by Tiffin authorities:

"We believe there has never been a necessity, and that it is not now necessary, for armed guards in this city, and that the taking of a human life and the bodily injury of others would not have occurred but for the course so ill-advisedly pursued by this company in this peaceful and law-abiding community."

LESSON ON FARMERS' STRIKE.

Springfield, Ill., May 27.—"To us farmers the whole thing is a matter of strength and a new tie between the factory and the field," declared Adjutant Gen. Black of the Farmers' union, on the recent strike of milk farmers.

"Here were all the typical marks of the effort of their city brothers," continues Secretary Boyle. "The picketing, the violence, the inevitable, far-reaching injunction, the power of the court used against the strikers—all to which was permission from Judge Donnelly for a set of armed thugs to terrorize, kidnap, massacre, a miniature of milk and blood."

PREPARING FOR RUSH.

Albany, N. Y., May 27.—This state does not accept the theory that industrial depression will cease after the European war. Governor Whitman has signed the Brown bill, which provides for a bureau conducted by the state "to promote the settlement of immigrant farms." The director of the bureau is authorized to co-operate in every way possible with the federal government in bringing immigrant farm laborers and their families to homes in New York.

COAL OPERATORS' GRIP LOOSENED IN COLORADO

Trinidad, Col., May 27.—District Judge Wiley has dismissed perjury charges against Horace N. Hawkins and Fred W. Clark.

At the trial of John R. Lawson, who was convicted by a jury in the court of Judge Hillyer, ex-coal company attorney, a juror made affidavit that Judge Hillyer's name was used against him by the court and the court bailiff to secure this conviction. This statement was used by Hawkins and Clark, Lawson's attorneys, to secure a new trial. Later the juror made a second affidavit in which he withdrew his first affidavit and charged the attorneys with causing him to testify falsely.

Judge Wiley has refused to support the claim of Attorney General Farrar, who is conducting the prosecution of the miners, and who has worked incessantly to nullify the effect of the juror's first affidavit.

Denver, May 27.—Adjutant General Gamble has called for the resignations of a large number of officers of the state militia. Included in the list is Lieutenant Linderfelt, who won his Croix de Guerre at the battle of Massaere, two years ago; Major Hamrock, Colonel Verdeckberg and others who displayed a spirit of reform to the bidding of coal barons. Adjutant General Gamble declares that those who was in command of the state militia during the miners' strike, and he has asked for them to sign a few months ago. General Gamble announces that the entire service must be purged.

Canon City, Col., May 27.—At the request of the district attorney Judge Cooper has dismissed nearly 100 indictments charged with the various crimes in connection with the recent strike of miners in the southern Colorado coal fields.

Editor John O'Neill of the Trinidad Free Press makes this comment on Judge Cooper's action:

"Every miner charged with crime, whose case has been conducted in a court outside the pale where coal is king, has been vindicated, and nobody has been convicted except within the borders of that reservation known as 'Colorado's Siberia' where the jurors were hand picked."

"CO-OPERATIVE PLAN" FAILS

Philadelphia, May 27.—Organized labor in this city won a victory in the latest to reject a "co-operative plan" to adjust wages. When General Manager Smith of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit company established his plan he announced that on or before 1915 the highest wage paid to men would be 22 cents, and the highest wage paid hereafter, 25 cents. Recently the Central Labor Union issued a circular to street car men in which it was shown that the company was making in all cities employes, reap not Mr. Mitten of his profession and elected wages of not less than 25 cents an hour, making the lowest rate 25 cents and the highest rate 21 cents.

The Philadelphia Rapid Transit offer has intensified it and at a meeting of the union a committee was appointed to wait on Manager Mitten, the following demands: All motormen and conductors be paid 40 cents an hour; an additional one-half per cent time; arbitration provisions and where differences are not compelled to lay off because of work in connection with the organization they shall not lose their seniority.

The street car men are in no mood to discuss alleged "co-operative" plans. They look on these theories as a bait and are determined to rely on trade union methods to increase wages and improve working conditions.

STETSON STRIKERS FIRM.

Philadelphia, May 27.—Despite every attempt to break the strike of Stetson hat company employes by local newspapers, these workers are as determined as ever in their fight for union recognition. The company has issued a statement which is regarded by the strikers as a "free and independent" palaver. He declares that his concern is not like unions, and that "the West Penn company began here as a non-union concern and remained so for years, and we feel determined that our properties shall be operated by non-union men."

PRINTERS SECURE INCREASES.

Washington, May 27.—The senate committee on post offices and post roads has recommended wage increases from $1,200 to $1,500 annually for 31 printers employed in the printing offices under the jurisdiction of the United States senate.

At the request of A. F. of L. Secretary Morrison and Representative Parsons of the International Printing Pressmen's union the house committee accepted this legislation but it was later defeated in the house on a point of order. The measure then secured its adoption by the senate committee.

SHIP YARD WORKERS STRIKE.

Camden, N. J., May 27.—Over 1,000 workers employed in the hull department of the New York Shipbuilding company struck for eight-hour day, wage demands. The successor of Cramp Shipbuilding company workers are also striking for the eight-hour day. These strikers who are demanding a share of ship profits.

EQUAL RIGHTS DENIED BY LABOR INJUNCTION

Chicago, May 27.—Opposition of Illinois trade unionists to the labor injunction has been intensified by Judge Jesse Baldwin's latest edict against striking machinists, which denies these workers every statutory and common law right. The order is directed to "all associations, firms and persons assisting, aiding or confederating" with the machinists, or "having knowledge" of the injunction. All these are prohibited "from interfering with or attempting to interfere with the complainants in the business in the usual and ordinary way."

The order specifies in such "interference" visitations to the homes of employes of the machinists for inducing them to join with the strikers to secure better working conditions.

The Illinois Federation of Labor Weekly News Letter makes this comment on Judge Baldwin's latest outrage:

"The complainant is Morris Wald & Co. Now suppose the learned judge had issued a blanket injunction against the business competitors of this concern. Look it over again! Taken exactly as it reads, it forbids several hundred established business practices. Every traveling salesman seeks to get business away from competitors. He calls at the customer's home and makes use of circulars and other printed matter. Business concerns watch each other's every move closely. They sometimes induce each other's employes, by offers of higher wages, to leave the managers who hold the innermost secrets of the business, to leave the employment of one concern and go to work for another. And when this is done they naturally offer a reward in the shape of higher wages to induce them to do so. But the judge, of course, does not intend to forbid any of the customary acts, except when such men aid or assist labor unions, and that part of the injunction refers to "all associations, firms and persons' having knowledge thereof' does not mean what it says. It means working-men who belong to unions, and then:

"All citizens are equal before the law in the state of Illinois! Certainly—but injunctions are not law, and there is no equality before the court, when a judge like the Hon. Jesse A. Baldwin occupies the bench."

CARPENTERS CONTINUE GAINS.

Indianapolis, May 27.—General Secretary Duffy, of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, reports that the following wage increases and other gains have been made by various locals of carpenters:

Bloomington, Ill.—From 40 to 45 cents an hour.

Clifford, Pa.—From $2 to $2.60 per day.

Uniontown, Pa.—From 45 to 50 cents an hour.

Rochester, N. Y.—From $4 to $4.25 per day till April 1, 1917; $4.50 thereafter.

Sheboygan, Wis.—From 40 to 47 1-2 cents an hour. May 1, 1917, 50 cents thereafter.

Polk City, Pa.—From $3.25 to $3.50 per day.

Ft. Dodge, Iowa—From 50 to 52 1-2 cents an hour.

Easton, Pa.—From 40 to 45 cents an hour; work day reduced from nine hours to eight. Established by agreement.

McKeesport, Pa.—From $4.50 to $5 per day.

Ohio valley (Ohio and West Virginia)—Minimum of 50 cents an hour and Saturday half holiday.

Duluth, Minn.—From 47 1-2 to 55 cents an hour.

Colorado City, Col.—From 50 to 60 cents an hour.

Colorado City, Col.—From 55 to 60 cents an hour.

Alamaso, Col.—From 50 to 60 cents an hour.

Norfolk Co., Mass.—From 48 to 54 to 56 cents an hour this year; 52 1-2 cents next year.

Wage increases averaging 5 cents an hour were also reported from Douglas, Casper, Greybull and Cheyenne, Wyo.

FIREMEN RAISE WAGES.

Omaha, Neb., May 27.—Stationary firemen employed at the distillery in this city have increased wages from $2.50 for eight hours a day and six days a week. Former rates were $12.50 a week, 12 hours a day and seven days a week.

This job was considered one of the worst in the city and could not be obtained except by overthrow or refusal to allow any unionist to enter the premises, and if an employe happened to join the union he was discharged. By a house to house canvass the men employed at the distillery in the three months following this announcement the company increased wages $4.50 a week, with a decrease of 36 working hours each week.

"BLIND ALLEY JOBS."

Toledo, Ohio, May 27.—"Modern industrial conditions are creating 'blind alley jobs' upon thousands of 'blind alley jobs,'" says the Evening Blade.

"In every locality, in every industrial establishments there are scores of mechanical operations which can be performed by boys for a few hours, or, at most, in a few days. The machine operator does exactly the same thing day after day, week after week, week after week, with scant prospect for advancement to a more important position."

LONGSHOREMEN WIN.

New York, May 27.—Longshoremen employed by the Mallory Steamship company have won their strike for better conditions.

The strike spread upon are: Thirty-five cents an hour for day work; 50 cents an hour for night work, and 60 cents an hour for Sunday work. Men to be paid for overtime. The longshoremen struck for 40 cents an hour for day work, 50 cents for night, 60 cents for Sundays and overtime, which was the increased rate of wages paid by the Mallory line before international Mercantile Marine company.

LABOR EDITORS CONVENE.

Cincinnati, May 27.—The annual convention of the International Labor Press of America, held in this city, elected its old officers and will submit the proposition to hold the convention city to a referendum. Delegates were entertained at the headquarters of the Cincinnati central labor union. The convention favored a congressional investigation of the increased cost of living paper.

GAINS BY BROOKLYN PAINTERS.

Brooklyn, N. Y., May 27.—Brooklyn painters announce that they have won their strike for 50 cents an hour. Over 10,000 workers are benefited. Many New York contractors are resisting the painters' demands, but the indications are standing firm.

DOCK WORKERS WIN.

Erie, Pa., May 27.—Another lost dock worker's strike has been settled, wages raised 5 cents an hour for warehouse and boat work employes.